

Message Text

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LUSAKA, SEPTEMBER 11 -- THE FOLLOWING EDITORIAL APPEARED IN
TODAY'S ZAMBIA DAILY MAIL, THE GOVERNMENT-OWNED NEWSPAPER:

QTE IF THERE IS ONE MAN WHO HAS CHOSEN TO LIVE IN A FOOL'S PARADISE,
IT IS THE PRIME MINISTER OF SOUTH AFRICA, MR. JOHN VORSTER.

WHEN THE WORLD HAS BEEN TELLING HIM DURING THE PAST TWENTY YEARS
THAT HIS APARTHEID POLICIES WERE LEADING SOUTH AFRICA TO TOTAL
DESTRUCTION, HE DID NOT WANT TO BELIEVE IT.

WHEN THE RIOTS STARTED IN JUNE THIS YEAR, HE STILL DID NOT WANT
TO BELIEVE THAT SOUTH AFRICA WAS ON FIRE.

AND EVEN NOW THAT THE COLOURED'S HAVE JOINED THE BLACKS BY OPENLY
CONDEMNING THE APARTHEID SYSTEM, MR. VORSTER STILL SPEAKS WITH
THE TONE OF A MAN WHO DOES NOT WANT TO BELIEVE THAT HIS HOUSE
IS ON FIRE.

HE STILL TALKS OF STERN ACTION AS THOUGH THOSE HE WARNS HAVE NOT
YET LOST BLOOD.

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THERE WAS A TIME WHEN REBEL LEADER IAN SMITH BOASTED HE COULD STEM

THE TIDE OF BLACK NATIONALISM. AT THAT TIME HE TALKED BIG LIKE MR. VORSTER IS TALKING BIG TODAY.

BUT SMITH IS TODAY A MAN WHO HAS BEEN REDUCED TO HIS SIZE. WHEN A MAN RESORTS TO SUCH DESPERATE ACTION AS CONSCRIPTING 16-YEAR-OLD YOUTHS, THEN YOU KNOW THAT MAN IS AT THE END OF HIS TETHER.

SMITH IS REALISING TOO LATE THAT THERE IS NO WEAPON IN THE WORLD WHICH CAN DEFEAT A MAJORITY WHEN IT HAS THE WILL TO FIGHT EVEN WITH STONES.

THE PEOPLE OF SOUTH AFRICA, THE BLACK PEOPLE THAT IS, ARE NO LONGER IN THE MOOD TO PLAY GAMES WITH APARTHEID. THEY WANT IT DISMANTLED. IF MR. VORSTER CANNOT DISMANTLE IT, THEY WILL HELP HIM TO DO SO.

PIECEMEAL PALLIATIVES LIKE THE ONES HE IS NOW PASSING ON TO THE COLOURED COMMUNITY ARE NOTHING MORE THAN MORSELS FROM THE MASTER'S TABLE. THEY WILL BE REJECTED.

WHAT THE BLACK PEOPLE OF SOUTH AFRICA WANT TODAY IS THE SHARING OF POWER WITH THE WHITE MAN.

IF MR. VORSTER DOES NOT REALISE THIS OR DOES REALISE IT BUT REFUSES TO ACCEPT IT AS FACT, THEN HE WILL HAVE TO LEARN TO LIVE WITH VIOLENCE WITH THE BLACK RACES IN SOUTH AFRICA UNTIL THERE IS MAJORITY RULE IN THAT COUNTRY.

IF MR. VORSTER WANTS TO BE A REALIST, HE MUST ACCEPT THE FACT THAT THERE WILL HAVE TO BE MAJORITY RULE IN SOUTH AFRICA AT ONE TIME OR ANOTHER.

IN THE PAST, IT HAS ONLY BEEN THE BLACK PEOPLE WHO HAVE BEEN TRYING TO PASS ON THIS MESSAGE TO THE WHITES.

AFTER TWENTY YEARS OF UNINTERRUPTED APARTHEID RULE, THE COLOURED HAVE ALSO COME TO AGREE WITH THE AFRICANS.

IF THERE IS TO BE NO CHANGE SOON, SOUTH AFRICA MAY FIND HERSELF UNCLASSIFIED

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ENGAGED IN GUERRILLA WARFARE AND IN A PROTRACTED WAR WHICH THE BLACKS WILL HAVE TO WIN IN END.

WHAT MR. VORSTER MUST UNDERSTAND IS THAT THE CIVIL STRIFE WHICH HAS STARTED WILL ONLY STOP WITH MAJORITY RULE. WHAT THE AFRICAN PEOPLE WILL NOT GET THROUGH NEGOTIATION THEY WILL GET THROUGH VIOLENCE AND THROUGH THE BARREL OF THE GUN. UNQTE.

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